

SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Assembly Chambers, Kenai Peninsula Borough  
144 N. Binkley Road, Soldotna, Alaska  
October 6 & 7, 1994

VOLUME II

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Roy S. Ewan, Chairman  
Lee C. Basner, Vice Chairman  
Benjamin E. Romig, Member  
Ralph Lohse, Member  
  
Helga Eakon, Coordinator

P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record)

CHAIRMAN EWAN: We'll call the meeting to order. Let's get seated. The first order of business will be going back to Old Business under item E., Upper Tanana Customary and Traditional Schedule and Council Comments, Draft Report and Staff Recommendations. And this will be Janis again -- Janis Meldrum.

MS. MELDRUM: I was trying to work up a -- excuse me, I'm a little disorganized. I was trying to work up an example for you to give you an idea of how these proposed conclusions were reached, and then maybe each of you could think about how that would apply to communities in your area to give you an idea how extensive or restrictive these -- this proposal really is, and it might actually apply to the Cantwell situation which we discussed last night and the use of the Kantishna Hills.

I guess by way of example I would use two of the communities in the five-community area, and explain to you how the conclusion was arrived at for one of those species, and then how extensive that area of use would be to illustrate how public comments were used, how ADF&G data was used, and then how the conclusion was reached. The first example I would use would be Dot Lake and I guess the use of caribou might be a good one to look at in that respect. And you can turn to Dot Lake in your purple document here and the section on caribou, and some of the information I'll be supplying is going to be in there.

Now what the map -- we'll have to refer to the blue final report because there's maps there I'd like you to take a look at, too. Figure II-6, which is in Section II of the blue book is on page II-26, it's going to be folded over.

Okay, first, in consideration of how the data was used that ADF&G supplied us, if you look at this map you'll see that this map was generated after discussion with 11 households in the community of Dot Lake, which consists of 20 households in total. So it was a fairly large proportion of the community that they talked to to generate this map. But the way they generate these maps is that they talk to households, ask them where they hunt and they put that on a map. They go to the next one and that person could actually have a different -- completely different hunting area, and then they'll map that. And in the end they take everybody's aggregated hunting area and they place it on a map like you see here.

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1           So sometimes when you see a very extended range of  
 2 hunting for a community, it could be just one household  
 3 reporting the use of that extended area. For example, Tok has a  
 4 community harvest area for moose that extends all the way up to  
 5 Fairbanks and as far down as Chistochina and up to Eagle and  
 6 down the Charlie River, which is fairly extensive compared to  
 7 the other four Upper Tanana communities. But that doesn't mean  
 8 that a majority of the community uses that very extensive area.  
 9 It could be a very small portion. I explain that because these  
 10 maps are -- can be misleading if you don't understand that.

11

12           So if you look at this map for Dot Lake caribou it  
 13 shows that they have a very limited area of use of caribou, and  
 14 this was documented in the early '80s. So we went back and  
 15 asked the community, is this still right. Well, what the  
 16 community came back with in their comments was information about  
 17 four families in the Dot Lake area, and the way they -- I'll  
 18 read you how they described it in their comments. As soon as I  
 19 find them.

20

21           In the final report I condensed their comments, to some  
 22 agree, but they say that four major families in Dot Lake have  
 23 documented family and cultural ties with people in Northway,  
 24 Tanacross, Tetlin and in the Copper River Basin. They claim  
 25 that they have a long-term use of federal lands in Tetlin  
 26 National Wildlife Refuge and Wrangell/St/Elias National Park.  
 27 The primary species they harvest in those areas are moose,  
 28 caribou, sheep, muskrat, berries and birchbark. And then they  
 29 go on to describe the four major families in that community that  
 30 use these areas and describe what their uses were.

31

32           And the four families are the Doris Charles family who  
 33 Doris Charles was born at Batzulnetis, along the Nebesna Road.  
 34 Gene Henry family was also raised at Batzulnetis. The Isaac  
 35 family and the Luke family all claim similar ties to that  
 36 Batzulnetis area.

37

38           Well, after considering what ADF&G had mapped for those  
 39 households in 1982 and '83 and their use of a small area  
 40 around Dot Lake, and then if you accept the comments that the  
 41 Dot Lake Village Council prepared and sent in that describes  
 42 these four families that occupy at least 12 households in that  
 43 community, you have really a higher percentage of use of that --  
 44 the Batzulnetis area than what ADF&G might have shown in the  
 45 households in this less extensive area.

46

47           So I accepted what the Dot Lake Village Council said as  
 48 being true. It wasn't collected in a formal manner as ADF&G  
 49 collected their data, but nonetheless they had shown that these

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four major families occupying 12 households had used a different area that wasn't on this map. So I accepted that as being true.

3

4

5 For other communities such as Tok, who sent in a lot of  
6 comments about their use of more extensive areas, such as Tok  
7 identified 42 families in the community that used areas, hunted  
8 all throughout Unit 11, Unit 12, and parts of 5(A) and 5(B), so  
9 all the way through the Wrangell/St. Elias National Park is what  
10 they were trying to show. Well, 42 families out of 367 in Tok  
11 is still a fairly wide percentage. Again I felt like what they  
12 had done was not a formal survey, but what they presented was  
13 evidence that they had used these fairly extensive areas. So I  
14 didn't reject that information as being untrue because I didn't  
15 have a basis for doing that. But when I looked at this large  
16 area that people said they used, from Fairbanks, all the way  
17 down to Unit 5(A) and 5(B), down to Chistochina and Chitina and  
18 is very extensively along the road system, I said, well, maybe  
19 people do actually use these very extensive areas, but some of  
20 that hunting may not be considered a subsistence use because it  
21 is so far off that it's not very economical to travel from Tok  
22 hundreds of miles down to the Chitna River and then float  
23 another X amount of hours down to a new area or however they're  
24 getting there.

25

26 So what I did was accepted everybody's comments about  
27 additional areas that they had hunted if they could show that  
28 there was a substantial percentage of the community that did  
29 that, and the comments that came in did show that, but I limited  
30 people's use areas to what -- I guess you could argue how far  
31 along the highway or how distant from a community is reasonably  
32 accessible, but I limited them to 120 miles or roughly a two-  
33 hour drive on a good road. And so the areas that I allowed -- I  
34 accepted as being a subsistence use area for these communities  
35 had to fit within a roughly 120-mile radius of their community.

36

37

38 They had to have shown use of that area, but if they  
39 showed extensive use of areas throughout -- around their  
40 community, it was limited to a roughly 120-mile radius. In some  
41 cases it went a bit beyond that because I was trying to find a  
42 natural boundary that we could draw to show where their use area  
43 ended, such as the middle fork of the Forty-Mile River, which  
44 intersects Unit 20(E) was a good identifiable point on the ground.  
45 But if you extend that to perhaps the situation that we  
46 discussed last evening about people in Cantwell and their use of  
47 the Kantishna Hills area, I don't know what the mileage is there  
48 but it might be fairly close, Cantwell to the Kantishna Hills in  
49 terms of a drive. And then you have to look at the percentages

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of households that we accepted in these situations here in the Upper Tanana which I have to come up with the minimum percentage that we accepted, but it was something less than 50% of the households in the community had to show a use of an area to be essentially granted that use.

6

7 Am I making this clear or am I muddying it?

8

9 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I think it's clear.

10

11 MS. MELDRUM: So my first decision point was if there was enough information in these -- contained in these eight factors to show that they had some fairly continuous use of a resource, I gave them a yes, do they have customary and additional use. So for most species for most communities they did show that they did have some use of a species, so they were granted a yes in the first column on your summary chart in the purple book.

19

20 Then after I decided who had a customary and traditional use, then I applied this other rationale of showing certain percentage as to how the communities and the household using an area and then restricting them to 120-mile radius from their community to get the unit by unit designations.

25

26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Is that it?

27

28 MS. MELDRUM: Yes.

29

30 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I have a question about how you approach individuals. Did you explain to them what you were doing? I mean how did you approach them? I just wanted to know whether the information they were giving you was with the knowledge that it was for some certain purpose.

35

36 MS. MELDRUM: Well, when we went to -- when we conducted these public meetings in the communities and with Upper Tanana Forty-Mile Fish & Game Advisory Committee, what was said was that people wanted -- people complained that the ADF&G data didn't fairly represent them. In some cases that was the complaint, that that data wasn't good. So I said, well, if the data is not good you're going to have to show us why it's not good or supply information that shows that you've went through some effort to document a new area. But I certainly didn't lay out these criteria that I am today because we weren't that far along in our thinking about it, so I didn't say you have to show that X percentage of people in your community use an area; I gave them more general guidelines of what they should do.

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1 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Any comments, questions?  
2ee.

3

4 MR. BASNER: Mr. Chair, I'm pretty comfortable with  
what she has done. I think it sounds to me like a good  
6pproach, and I think I'm comfortable with the approach to the  
people. If you were to go into a community, for example, say  
8anybody that hunted within 120 miles who is eligible and beyond  
1020 miles not you'd be establishing the parameters. Perhaps  
12everyone in the community might get together and say, hey, we  
want it to go out 150 miles and therefore could falsify a claim.  
14think I'm comfortable with your approach to that, and I think  
16I don't have any problems with your conclusions either. I  
18think it's a pretty good document.

15

16 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other comments or questions?  
18Ralph, do you have a comment?

17

19 MR. LOHSE: No.

20

21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I thought you were raising your hand.  
23ay, thank you very much. We'll go on to our next item, and  
25our next item is Designated Hunter. Have we postponed this  
27until today? Where was it on here? Whose going to be speaking  
29this?

26

27 MS. EAKON: Is this on? Okay, by way of introduction,  
29the impetus for this draft report came at the April 1994 Federal  
31subsistence Board Meeting, at which time the Kodiak/Aleutians  
33Council submitted a proposal that would allow certain  
35individuals to harvest deer on behalf of other individuals, and  
37at the same time the Southeast Council had submitted three  
39proposals essentially based on the so-called designated hunter  
41regulation. And I do have copies of the proposals here on which  
43this report was based. If you would like a copy, otherwise you  
45needn't take one.

36

38 Anyway, the board ultimately directed the staff in the  
40Office of Subsistence Management to work with the regional  
42Advisory councils, the State Fish & Game, and other federal  
44Agencies to identify and review alternatives that would apply on  
46all federal public lands in the state. The first meeting of  
48this task force was held in July, and there was a follow-up  
50meeting in August, and if you read the report there's a list of  
persons who attended those meetings. On behalf of this council  
Ed John, Jr. faithfully attended both meetings and in  
62conversations with him he was very, very interested in these  
64guidelines, and he did make a comment to me that in this  
66particular region it seemed to him that the concept of

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designated hunter would work best in the smaller communities.

2

3 Did all of you have an opportunity to read the draft  
 4 report? Was there anything you wanted to flush out, Taylor,  
 5 before they make comments? If you have any questions, please  
 6 direct them to Taylor.

7

8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. I'd like to ask the council  
 9 members to decide how we want to proceed with this. I believe  
 10 there's three management options proposed, and then there's the  
 11 designated hunter option. Ralph.

12

13 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman, Ben and I were just  
 14 discussing something before. We were trying to remember what  
 15 the current state regulation is on this. I think there is some  
 16 provision made in the state regulations for a designated hunter  
 17 type thing, isn't there?

18

19 MR. MORRISON: That's true. I have a copy of it here  
 20 if you want any details out of it.

21

22 MR. LOHSE: Could you just give us a quick summary?

23

24 MR. MORRISON: It provides that a beneficiary or a  
 25 recipient who is blind, over 65 or physically disabled, unable  
 26 to hunt for himself or herself, can go to a department office  
 27 and get a special permit, license, whereby he or she can then  
 28 give that to a -- that person has to get a hunting license, and  
 29 then can get the proxy permit and transfer it to another  
 30 licensed hunter who is able to go out and do the hunting. That  
 31 person is responsible for taking care of the meat and returning  
 32 it to the beneficiary and then also reporting the nature of the  
 33 hunt; what was taken, where, when and so forth. That's the  
 34 basis of it.

35

36 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Do you want to take up that designated  
 37 hunter option first?

38

39 MR. LOHSE: I have no intention on that, Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN EWAN: What do you want to do about it?

42

43 MR. LOHSE: I just want to compare the two and actually  
 44 this report, it sounds very similar to what he just said the  
 45 state regulations were on it.

46

47 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah, why don't we discuss that  
 48 designated hunter option since we're talking about it already.  
 49 Taylor.

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1  
2 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, I think it may help to  
understand how this got rolling, to back-up just one little  
step, and that is that the four proposals that started the ball  
rolling in the federal program, they began by essentially  
bringing the same provisions in state regulations into the  
federal program. It was, in effect, introducing a proxy system  
into the federal program, and the critical element of a hunter  
being able to take animals on behalf of a person who was  
elderly, blind or disabled, that was kind of the idea; bring  
that good point from the state program into the federal program.  
Those were the proposals that were submitted in October, a year  
ago.

14  
15 In February of last year the Southcentral Council --  
pardon me, Southeast Regional Council and the Kodiak/Aleutians  
Council thought some more about it and there was actually some  
concerns expressed about administrative burden, all the  
paperwork involved in the state program. So in February those  
two councils revised their proposal and they said instead of  
limiting this idea of hunting for someone to only another person  
who was blind, disabled or elderly, the tradition in our  
regions, the cultural tradition is that a person could hunt for  
another person quite often without that restriction, and so the  
proposals that went before the board in April talked about one  
hunter being able to hunt for any other person who had a license  
who could not hunt for themselves for any reason. So it removed  
that limitation to blind, disabled or elderly.

29  
30 The board asked us to consider -- you know, they were a  
little nervous about going so widely all at once, particularly  
since the revised proposals came late. We hadn't had a chance  
to analyze those in the staff work. So what -- in part what the  
board was asking us to think about was is there a way to come up  
with a federal designated hunter program that would be pretty  
similar to the state's program, can we have one that matches up?  
And I think the critical outcome of our working group of the  
task force is the village representatives, the council  
representatives felt pretty strongly about a wide opportunity to  
harvest for another person, not only for people who would be  
blind, disabled or elderly. There was a pretty strong point of  
view that the cultural traditions in village Alaska included  
hunting for elderly people but that often someone would hunt for  
other people as well; young moms who aren't able to go out on  
behalf of their household, or something of that sort.

46  
47 So the comparison to keep in mind is what's proposed  
here or what came out of the discussion with the council  
representatives would be a wider and considerably more flexible  
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program for designated hunters by comparison to the state's proxy system. Thank you.

3

4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. Any other comments? I do have a question. From management standpoint any of these options that you've got in this booklet could work?

7

8 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I think it's actually a very .....

10

11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I know that you state the problems with various options, but I mean .....

13

14 MR. BRELSFORD: I think out of the gate .....

15

16 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I would like to hear the managers of -- people actually implementing the hunt, give their preference. I would like to hear any preferences of anybody here.

19

20 MR. BRELSFORD: Helga may have mentioned this, but I think we need to underline again that the tribal management option and the local government management options, number one and two, are not legal at the present time. Our regulatory framework in ANILCA does not authorize the board to delegate its decision making powers down to tribes or local governments.

26

27 In some ways it might be a little misleading that we went ahead and talked about those and tried to analyze the value of those options, but again it was -- many of the council members felt it very important to look forward, to look ahead and to take into account the possibility that some new tribal jurisdictions might be underway. The Secretary of Interior recently offered an executive order recognizing 220 tribes in Alaska, and so some of these are policies and jurisdictions that are in transition. That's the reason that Options 1 and 2 are included in this, but they are not currently viable. There are legal and regulatory obstacles. Basically these would go outside of the current scope of ANILCA regulations. There would have to be some major changes at the national policy level before Option 1 or 2 would be implemented -- before it would be possible to implement those.

42

43 Options 3 and 4 are really the working zone for this year. This council and other councils could put proposals on the table for either community harvest limits, if you think that's the best way to go for one village or another, or on the designated hunter option you may want to adopt for particular species -- maybe caribou, it would be a good idea in Unit 20 to go with a designated hunter program for caribou. You guys could

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draw specific proposals up based Options 3 or 4, the community harvest limit or the designated hunter. Those are ones we can work on this year. The other two are sort of long-range aspirations, but they're not currently available under the regulations.

6

7 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, council members, do you understand that? Well, it's okay, then, right at this point, as I wanted to do, to go into designated hunter option. My question was what do you have, any recommendation from the management on how you want to go about the designated hunter concept?

13

14

15 MR. BRELSFORD: I think to some extent we've considered this the heart of the council's work.

17

18 CHAIRMAN EWAN: You can't drop it on us.

19

20 MR. BRELSFORD: So we have a few ideas, but basically it's really -- you know, this is where you guys earn your keep, helping to identify what the long-range needs and how we do better business, how we implement a responsive and effective program in your individual regions. I think we've had some small preferences. Deer, for example, I think we've recognized a designated hunter program with deer, an abundant species with large bag limits at the present time. Providing some flexibility about who hunts for who with deer is pretty easy. There's very little risk of overharvest. We think there is a management -- an administrative mechanism to implement that effectively. We've been a little more concerned about when you get to moose or some sheep, goats, some of the species that are much less abundant, and a lot of flexibility about who hunts who may change the overall hunting pressure on those species, and that may be a little more tricky to predict and kind of figure out, and again, to be sure that we're not putting the populations at risk.

38

39 I think those are basically the preferences that we've talked about. The deer seems like maybe a good first step to implement a real flexible designated hunter program, and I think in fact the Kodiak Council put that idea back in as a proposal this coming year.

44

45 Why don't I be sure that Dick Marshall has a chance to offer his views on this 'cause he's been kind of in the middle of figuring out the management side on this.

48

49 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right.

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1  
2 MR. MARSHALL: Taylor covered the work of the task  
3 force, I think, very well. We've been talking about this part  
4 of the program now ever since it began. Taylor mentioned that  
5 the last two options are indeed legal under the regulations, and  
6 they are specifically in one subpart of our regulation that the  
7 board can allow this kind of activity. The regulations just  
8 provided a general coverage of it and wasn't specific, and it  
9 has left this up to people at a later date to work out. And I  
10 don't think it takes any of us very much thought to realize that  
11 by trying to do a general good for a lot of people there are  
12 going to be some people -- I don't want to use the word "abuse"  
13 and try to affect anybody, but there are some people that are  
14 not truly living a subsistence lifestyle that are going to get  
15 the most out of this.

16 Taylor mentioned deer. Although they're abundant I  
17 think all of us could see a situation in the town of Kodiak  
18 where somebody who really just liked to pull the trigger might  
19 say, hey, I'm going deer hunting next weekend, I'm going to go  
20 up and down the block, knock on doors and see how many people  
21 let me bring a deer back for them. That isn't quite what  
22 congress had in mind with ANILCA. On the other hand, you go to  
23 a smaller community and it's been their custom for many, many  
24 years for one small group of people to go out and harvest for  
25 sometimes the entire community. We need your help there to draw  
26 reasonable sideboards to this. The abuses that I see worry me  
27 primarily not from a resource aspect necessarily but the kind of  
28 media attention that could attract by newspapers or somebody  
29 painting a very invalid picture of what we're trying to do. We  
30 could look very irresponsible in the eyes of the public.

31  
32 A similar situation, the deer would be somebody in a  
33 community also was not living a true subsistence lifestyle, who  
34 would want to hang five pairs of moose antlers on his wall in  
35 the season by getting free licenses for his four kids and having  
36 his four kids say, well, go ahead and hunt for me. Again, it's  
37 a small element of the population that would do this, but I  
38 think we've got to be very careful of that. So I think we're  
39 leaving it up to you to give us some help in how to handle this.  
40 We want to do the best we can for the most people we can, but  
41 we do need some sideboards on it.

42  
43 We discussed even the concept of what's called party  
44 hunting, where maybe a group of four or five people go caribou  
45 hunting, they split up looking for caribou and only one  
46 individual or two individuals encounter the animal, and he kills  
47 animals for the entire party. That's not legal right now.  
48 Maybe it should be. So I think most of these concepts are  
49 touched on in this report, but I think what we're looking for is  
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4  
5 somebody, your council, to help us identify the units or the  
6 communities where this would be acceptable in your eyes.

7  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. We will have some comments here.  
10 John, do you have .....

11  
12  
13 MR. MORRISON: Yes, I would like to add a little more  
14 information to the state's experience with this proxy hunt as we  
15 have initiated it. It's had one season of application, and we  
16 have seen where it probably needs some improvement within the  
17 state regulatory system, largely because of the cumbersome  
18 administrative paperwork experience that people have to go  
19 through in order to get the proxy permit, and for many rural  
20 people it's impossible for them to do it, frankly. They have to  
21 go to a Fish & Game Department office in order to get this  
22 forms, and in some cases of disability they've got to provide a  
23 doctor's statement showing that they've got the legal 70%  
24 disability as defined in some government regulations. Same  
25 thing with blindness.

26  
27  
28 It has been very difficult for us to handle it because  
29 of the paperwork flurry. But still the department is eager to  
30 maintain this. They initiated it as a means of providing more  
31 opportunity for people to get meat that need it, and that was  
32 the basis for setting up regulation. Now the reason that they  
33 did so with these administrative procedures that they began with  
34 and put the restrictions on who could qualify, being blind,  
35 disabled or over 65, was basically to try to prevent fraudulent  
36 use of these permits. How successful we've been in the first  
37 year of application is not real clear, but we have had reports  
38 here and there that there have been people who have abused the  
39 privilege. One story I got was from right here in Soldotna  
40 where a local individual went out and got a moose on his own  
41 legal permit, then he got a proxy permit for his dad and went  
42 hunting for big antlers so he could win the big moose contest  
43 here, and apparently did so and won a big prize. That's not  
44 what the program was intended to support.

45  
46  
47 Now in this first year of application we found that the  
48 greatest number of permits were issued -- there are about 400  
49 permits issued statewide and about 75% of them came out of the  
50 major communities of Fairbanks and Anchorage, Palmer and  
51 Soldotna, Homer; 75% of all those permits to people living  
52 here. Well, that's where most of the people are in the state,  
53 for one thing, and perhaps that accounted for the higher rate of  
54 issuing the permits. But on the other hand, it also signifies  
55 that probably a lot of the rural people who need this  
56 opportunity the most weren't getting the benefit of it like it  
57 was intended in the beginning.

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1  
2 So the department has been analyzing the results of  
3 this toward the idea of recommending to the Board of Game  
4 perhaps some ways of improving on the state's regulation, and  
5 we've been participating in the task force exercise with the  
6 federal agencies, not only to be able to provide our insight  
7 about it, of course, but to benefit from what comes out of that  
8 task force and getting information that we can use. And our end  
9 point goal is that the federal and state programs be as similar  
10 as possible for various reasons; law enforcement, to maintain  
11 public support and understanding, not have people confused, and  
12 at the same time to provide maximum opportunity for people to do  
13 this kind of hunting, and last but not least, be sure that the  
14 resource is not abused in any way.

15  
16 So that's our stand in this, and we're hoping, as  
17 Taylor's pointed out, that councils also can help us get a  
18 better idea of how to handle this. And the one thing that I  
19 personally have felt out of looking at our experience in this is  
20 that one regulation doesn't seem to work too well statewide. It  
21 goes back to what Dick was saying about the difference in  
22 community sizes and different community lifestyles so that some  
23 variation needs to be introduced into this to accommodate those  
24 differences. Thank you.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you, John. I agree with you; the  
27 communities all vary in characteristics and some communities  
28 this designated hunter option could work very well. I think  
29 some of the villages in my area, this option would work very  
30 well. I think it's desired in that area, I think we have a lot  
31 of elders that need help and it's also our custom -- our Native  
32 custom to help elders, and they expect that. So I think that  
33 it's a good -- we're heading in the right direction, I think,  
34 trying to consider this option. I understand, from what I heard  
35 and what's written in these recommendations, that there will be  
36 problems. How we deal with those problems is something I'm not  
37 prepared to make comments on, 'cause I don't know. There are  
38 people that are not going to be honest about reporting, they're  
39 not going to be honest about the intent of their hunt and so on.  
40 just -- it's a hard problem to overcome. Ralph.

41  
42 MR. LOHSE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I was trying to put  
43 this in the context of different places I've lived and the  
44 discussions we've had in different communities, and I feel, too,  
45 that we need to streamline the state's proposal or the state's  
46 regulation in a way that does make it more applicable and  
47 accessible to people in rural communities. One thing that we  
48 have going for us with what we're discussing right here is  
49 because it's under the subsistence under ANILCA it deals with  
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rural communities, it does not expand the opportunity in the larger cities, which also means that possibly we could expand the amount of people who are eligible for it.

4

5 I know in Cordova we discussed this extensively at our advisory board meetings. We were talking about the proposal for the state. In fact we went on record, if I remember right, as being against this proposal, simply because of the fact that we saw the real possibility for abuse. The exact same thing that he used for an illustration, the person who gets an older person's permit or a disabled person's permit, simply to expand his own ego or his own opportunity to get a trophy. And we thought if it was to be applied at that time that it should be applied strictly on the basis of animals that were non-trophy type animals. Again, there would be deer, cow moose, things like that that didn't attract that kind of abuse.

17

18 Some of the things that are described in here, if you've lived in a small community, you realize that they're not legal, but that's how things are done in a small community. The idea of party hunting which brought up -- it is not legal method of hunting, and yet I've never been in a small community in Alaska yet where four or five people go out hunting and the idea isn't that the first person that sees the animal gets it, and he gets it for the party. The same way with designated hunters. Even without an official designated hunter many people in a small village -- I'll say many of us have gone out -- or a small community have gone out and purposely gone hunting for somebody who doesn't have the ability to go hunting on their own. I can think of just examples of older people in our community that I know enjoy game, and will make a specific hunt to get them an animal. We'll use our own tags, but we'll make a specific hunt to get them an animal; we'll use our own tags, but we'll make a specific hunt to get them an animal. Now that's a little bit more reasonable if you live in an area where you're allowed four deer or five deer than it is if you're out hunting for one moose and one caribou.

38

39 One thing about sharing, and that's something that sometimes we can lose sight of, I think, is sharing should cost not profit. The whole idea behind sharing is not to expand your ego because you're able to go out and get more and then give some of what you got to somebody else, but sharing normally comes out of what you've got, and that's what I've always seen in the past in either village situations or small community situations. If somebody's hurting, if somebody's in need, people share, and they don't expect to have opportunity to go out and get something extra to share, they share what they have. They share what they've got right now.

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1  
 2 And I'll just use -- the only thing I can do is talk  
 from my own experience. When I bring some salmon in and I take  
 them and I give them away to people, and I take them out of my  
 commercial catch and do that, that costs me. But sharing always  
 has cost. When a hunter went out and got a seal or a caribou  
 and split it with other people that meant that he didn't have  
 access to that part of it that he gave away. And I think we  
 need to really be careful that we don't -- well, that we don't  
 make it to the point where sharing is something that I get an  
 advantage to by sharing. I can think of this designated hunter  
 thing, and I have an older lady friend that's a real good friend  
 of ours, good friend of our family in Cordova, and she's offered  
 to go get a tag so that I can go off and shoot her a deer. I  
 don't need to do that, I can give her some deer out of the deer  
 that I get myself, and I also know people who would use it as a  
 for lack of a better way of putting it, as an ego trip, they  
 would love to be the designated hunter for a lot of people.  
 They like to go pull the trigger. And they'd be very happy to  
 give away everything they got; they don't really -- you know,  
 they don't really have a need for it 'cause they're more than  
 adequately supplied with what they hunt for themselves, but they  
 love the opportunity to go out and hunt for people and benefit  
 as a way for the prestige they'd gain by giving the game away.

25  
 26 So I really do think, you know, there are people with  
 needs and there are ways that we can provide for those, but at  
 the same time we need to be careful that we don't make it to the  
 point where it becomes something that can be abused for trophy  
 or it can be something that can be abused for ego or prestige or  
 it can just be something that takes away the idea that when  
 you're sharing you're giving something that you have yourself,  
 and that's what I've always seen as a strong part in the  
 community. I can remember when I taught school out on Aleutian  
 Peninsula and the mail plane didn't come for three weeks and we  
 were down on a lot of things, including tobacco, and at that  
 time I smoked, like most of the rest of the people in the  
 village smoked. And we shared it down to the last little bit,  
 and we shared it at the expense of not having it yourself.  
 That's what real sharing is. I mean real sharing is giving from  
 something that you've got, not getting something extra so that  
 you can give it away.

43  
 44 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you, Ralph. I just want to say  
 that, you know, as the game population decreases, I think it's  
 more desired for the elders to acquire a special permit. I  
 think that's where the State Fish & Game Board proposal came  
 from is their number of permits were starting to get smaller and  
 smaller for caribou and other things and the elders were more or  
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less left out, and not only did they have a problem physically, not being able to get out, but they weren't able to get a permit. I think the chances of a small community -- Native community getting a permit increased if you included those people. So that should be a consideration.

6  
7           Want to take a 10-minute break for coffee?   10-minute  
Break.

9  
10           (Off record)  
11           (On record)

12  
13           CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. I'll call the meeting back  
14 order. We're discussing the designated hunters option. What  
15 the desire of the council members; how do you want to proceed  
16 with this? Ralph.

17  
18           MR. LOHSE: Roy, I'd like to approach it from the idea  
19 that we do try to take some of the best things out of the state  
20 regulations and recognize what we're trying to do and basically  
21 try to apply it to places where we'll improve the odds or the  
22 opportunity for family or community to increase their chances of  
23 getting subsistence game. And from that standpoint, I think it  
24 would be very applicable especially to hunt where you have a  
25 drawing or permit that you'd be allowed to make use of the  
26 people who wouldn't normally be able to get out for themselves  
27 and have a designated hunter for them. For game that's in  
28 abundance and that there is no problem getting a drawing or  
29 permit for, I still kind of like the idea that a person should  
30 share what they get, but that's my own personal opinion on that.

31  
32           CHAIRMAN EWAN: So what we're saying, we generally  
33 support the whole idea of having designator hunter option. I  
34 think I also heard that we'd like to have it streamlined if  
35 possible, you know, if there's no problem with doing away with  
36 too much paperwork, that makes it difficult for some elder to  
37 get a permit, I think that would be desired. I know that that's  
38 a problem -- could be a problem in my area because Glennallen,  
39 you're familiar with that area, is the community that has all  
40 the federal officials, state officials and the outlying  
41 communities have to come in to Glennallen to get their permits  
42. It's a cost to come in, it's time consuming and if the  
43 person, individual has a handicap this makes it that much more  
44 difficult to be -- if he has a speech problem, there's another  
45 problem; he has to bring in a person to speak for him or her. I  
46 think we ought to try to make it easy for the elders or for the  
47 handicapped to get a permit. Ralph.

48  
49           MR. LOHSE: Roy, you know, this designated hunter  
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option that they've got in the book here has some -- does have some real good points, and I know that there are some possibilities for abuse and there's also some possibilities for not being followed, but as far as streamlining is concerned, one of the things that I liked best about streamlining this one here was the fact that all the person that had to do that was going to be the party for which the designated hunter was going to hunt, they were were still required to go out and get their license or the tags or put in for their drawing or anything like that. So that would take care of the licensing aspect of it, and then would be able to sign it over to the designated hunter.

12

13

14 Now if -- one of the things that was brought up before was the possibility that in a rural situation we could expand to a certain extent the people who were eligible to have somebody hunt for them. We've used the elder and the blind, we've used the handicapped, but one of the things that was brought up before that really struck me because it is a problem in our society and it is a problem in a lot of villages, small communities, stuff like that, and that is the person who currently is most likely to be on the poverty list, which is the unmarried mother, the girl who has a baby and doesn't have a husband. And if there's anybody -- if there's anybody that needs to have access to the subsistence protein, it's her. I mean she's raising a family, has young kids -- could be more than one kid, and has nobody to give her support. I would like to see, if we're going to go with something like this, that we expand it to include that type of a person. Again, when we're dealing with a permit hunt or a drawing hunt, this doesn't increase the amount of animals that are taken, it just increases the opportunity or the odds that this community or this family will have an additional chance to get one of those animals, and from that standpoint I would -- I think some of the streamlining things that are put in here, the idea of not going through the extra paperwork, still having to get the license, still having to put in for the permit and everything else, could be modified in such a way that we could actually use something like this.

39

40 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you, Ralph. Any other comments?  
41 Lee.

42

43 MR. BASNER: Well, I don't want to see this designated hunter program expand into another form of social welfare and taking care of single mothers. I think the intent was that additionally in the Native -- speaking strictly from the Native point of view, the Native communities have gone out and cared for the infirmed, the elderly, and people who weren't able to hunt. But to expand it so that some unwed mother needs some

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meat, I'm sorry, that's her problem and I don't view the Alaska game resources as a target to be cranked into the overall welfare system which doesn't work very well anyway.

4

5 I've got some problems on that designated hunter thing.  
6 I can see -- I am very sympathetic toward the traditional Native practices and hunting for each other, but the opportunity for abuse through particularly the non-Native community are so great that I'm scared to death of this thing. I live and hunt in Unit 13 and that also happens to be where Anchorage and Fairbanks does an abundance of their hunting. And I can see -- I'll use myself as an example. I don't live in a community; I don't have any neighbors, and I suppose if I broke a leg and needed to get some moose meat and I had a buddy here in Anchorage who liked to pull the trigger, I could call up and tell him to come on up and hunt for me, and I don't really think that that's the intent. I don't think that that's what we want to do here with this system. I think we're trying to protect some traditions. We've also got to protect the resource. As the resource continues to decline, here we are attempting to provide more opportunity to harvest more of the resource. We've got to take a look at this resource, because if it declines even more we're not going to have the opportunity for these elderly and the infirmed to go up and use the resource.

25

26 I don't have a specific recommendation. I'll comment on the minority opinion written by John Morrison and he's got some excellent points in there. I kind of like the state program but I've got a problem with the administrative paperwork. We certainly don't need to expand the requirements imposed on us in the form of paperwork and regulations. I really don't know, those are just general thoughts. I wish I had a specific answer to this, but at this point I don't, I need to hear some more opinions, but those are mine.

35

36 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you, Lee. I think we all have concern about the abuse, and I'm going to state it again, I generally support the concept. Is there a time schedule that we have to make this recommendation at this meeting; is there a reason why we have to decide today whether we go with this option or not, or can we postpone it till the next meeting? I was thinking, a couple of our members are not present here and I think these guys that do represent villages, maybe they'd be strongly in favor of this. I'd like to see them have the opportunity to present this to these other members that are not here. Helga.

47

48 MS. EAKON: That sounds like a reasonable suggestion to me. I do know that Fred John, Jr. participated in both of the  
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meetings, did have some very strong feelings that he wanted to share with the council, and in order to be fair, I think that we should try to incorporate thoughts of the other council members, Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any comments on that? Ralph.

7

8 MR. LOHSE: Yeah, I don't see any reason that we have to make a decision right now. I'd like to -- I don't really mean it as a rebuttal, but I'd like to answer some of Lee's concerns with some comments on my part.

12

13 Number one, I don't see this as welfare. I don't see this even as part of the welfare system; I see this as communities, families, whatever you want to call it, sharing. And I don't consider an unwed mother, and from being in the communities, the places that I've been, as being somebody that's any more or less handicapped than somebody else that's incapable of going out after something. They're part of the family.

20

21 Currently we've having the government talking about withdrawing from the welfare support for unwed mothers and making them seek their support from their own family from their own community, and, again, I'm not pushing that portion of the community, I was just looking at that as one -- when we talk about expanding we need to expand the opportunity to provide it to people with needs and as part of the community, and that's just one example. We're also not talking about increasing the take. We may talk about increasing the opportunity for a certain group to get a better shot at available permits, but the idea behind this was not to increase the take but it was basically to increase the opportunity for certain people in the community that would normally get a share.

34

35 I really don't have the feeling that in most communities that I've been in that if there's somebody that has a need that they won't get a share anyhow. I just have never seen that in a small community where somebody can be really hurting and other people don't pitch in. And that's Native communities and non-Native communities and rural communities and communities that aren't so rural, but just communities that are communities. And so I really don't have any fear. I, too, have a fear of abuse of this, but I have more of a fear of abuse of it if it applies, you know, to the animals that are in short supply or are trophy type animals. I think that some kind of safeguards can be written into them. I would like to see it streamlined and at the same time I would like to see some education go out that -- you know, that this is basically a last resort if you -- if it's part of the community have you have

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Something to share, you share it now, and if there's an opportunity to get a little bit more then you share it, too.

3

4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you, Ralph. I haven't given too much thought about the single parent being included. I could see the possibility of getting to be harder to manage if you get more people and the possibility of more abuse if you expand the designator hunter option to include those people, but I understand what you're saying, Ralph. There's a need there. Any individual that needs to gather whatever resources there are out there to survive I think should be afforded the opportunity. I have a problem how you do it. I mean how you control and all that, just like anybody else. Like I could see a greater potential for abuse if you include more individual -- more groups.

16

17 Again, I want to ask whether there's a schedule we're going to follow in order -- we're talking about the winter hunt. Is it possible to get something done by the winter hunt?

20

21 MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Chairman, maybe I can help you on this. As I see it there's at least three reasons for having it on the agenda today. One of them, this is a report of a sub-group that was put together that included representation from the councils and our staff and the state, and it's a report back from the sub-group to you on their work. That's one reason for having this on the agenda.

28

29 The other reason is that we're continuing to wrestle with this concept in our staff work, and our staff, the Staff Committee and the board need your additional impressions, and they've been most helpful today, what we've heard, which will be reported back and discussed in context of what we hear from the other nine councils, so we can better get a grasp on how this is being received.

36

37 But the third thing that does have a time limit built into it, the board will entertain proposals this year for application of this concept, and in that case we would have to have specific proposals by November 11, during the comment period. Of course I don't think anybody wants to rush prematurely into having proposals -- we're not asking you to prepare proposals. We might want to wait until this matures and do it next year, but if there are feelings from the communities that would like to put a proposal on the table for the board under either the designated hunter concept or the community bag limit concept, which we haven't discussed yet, there is a time limit to that.

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1 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yes, Ralph.

4

5 MR. LOHSE: I think there probably will be proposals  
6 submitted by different communities in October and November, and  
7 this would be our opportunity to state what we see as some of  
8 the problems, our ideas on it. We don't have to submit a  
9 proposal, we don't have to pass on anything right now. But we  
10 can at least -- we can at least state what our preference is, we  
11 can state what we see as problems, we can state the direction we  
12 would like to see it go so that when the board sits down and  
13 considers the proposals, that will be in front of it, and there  
14 will be a proposals in front of it, they at least have some  
15 input from us. If nothing else, the input with the problems  
16 that we see that -- or the direction that we'd like to see it  
17 go. And from that standpoint I think we would be amiss -- we  
18 don't have to pick one of these programs out here, doesn't have  
19 to swallow it just the way it is, but we would be amiss if we  
20 didn't state what our preference was, what we see as problems  
21 and the direction we'd like to see it go, because they will have  
22 consider this this fall and we will not have another  
23 opportunity on which to make a statement as a council.

24

25 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Good point, Ralph. I agree with you.  
26 just wanted to know if there was an urgency, if we can't wait  
27 and we got the answer here. Anybody else have any comment?  
28 e.

29

30 MR. BASNER: Yeah, I think Ralph's got some good points  
31 here and I think also someone mentioned previously, and I think  
32 was John, that what works in one part of Alaska doesn't  
33 necessarily work in another part, and I think our council, being  
34 composed ethnically the way it is, with lots of non-Natives,  
35 lots of Natives scattered throughout our council area, probably  
36 a little bit different than some of the other councils, and  
37 we'll probably -- may even come up with a different proposal.  
38 For example, in Northwest or Southwest Alaska those people could  
39 use the community harvest concept and in many communities it's  
40 all Native, all traditional, and probably wouldn't have any  
41 conflicts there at all. Whereas in my area, in Unit 13, we've  
42 got a real mix of backgrounds and people and uses of the  
43 resource. So I think probably this council may need to take a  
44 small look rather than a large look, rather than looking at the  
45 entire state maybe we need to look and focus just strictly on  
46 our area, come up with a proposal for it, and see whether or not  
47 that applies to the rest of the state.

48

49 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Taylor.

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1  
2 MR. BRELSFORD: I wanted to come back to a point that I  
think came up in part of the conversation. This would be a  
federal program, it would be part of the Federal Subsistence  
Management Program, and so would only apply to federal public  
lands, to the harvest activities that are occurring on federal  
public lands, and both the hunter and the recipient, the proxy  
person and the actual hunter would have to be qualified federal  
subsistence users. So the element of somebody coming up from  
Anchorage to harvest on behalf of a federal qualified user, that  
would not fall in this program. Whose in the circle of activity  
here is all the people qualified under the federal program and  
the land involved would all be the federal public lands. Thank  
you.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any further discussion? Ralph.

17  
18 MR. LOHSE: Yeah, I'd have to agree with Lee with what  
he was saying before. That's why my preference in our area  
would be a designated hunter over a community harvest. Most of  
our communities or a high percentage of our communities have a  
lot of different backgrounds and people in them, and even the  
communities that are fairly tight still have the opportunity to  
do a lot of places, we're all road accessible opportunities for  
people to come and go and have a tendency to have different  
elements in their community. And from that standpoint I think  
the designated hunter would work much better in our area in the  
area that we represent than the community harvest concept. And  
I don't see where we have to put in a proposal, but my  
preference would be to state that we would support the  
designated hunter concept with some streamlining, with possibly  
some expansion to it, and applying it only to animals that  
basically are, you know, in good supply, the kind of -- well, I  
think this is basically applying to moose, caribou and deer.  
And I don't see any problem with them. I would see more problem  
if we were dealing with bear, goats, sheep, things like that.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Do you want to put that in the form of  
a motion? You stated it very well. We can .....

40  
41 MR. LOHSE: Okay, I'll try. I would move that we as a  
council support the idea of the designated hunter option with  
the idea of streamlining the state type program and possibly  
expanding it to others with needs in our communities and  
villages.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Wasn't there one more thing that you  
mentioned? Oh, the .....

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1 MR. LOHSE: And applying it only to moose and caribou  
and deer.

3

4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. Is there a second?

5

6 MR. ROMIG: I'll second it.

7

8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: It's been moved and seconded. Any  
discussion on the motion? Lee.

10

11 MR. BASNER: Yeah, I didn't second that motion because  
of the inclusion of moose. Caribou, we've got some pretty  
healthy caribou herds, with the exception of Mentasta and maybe  
Denali, but I just question the inclusion of moose in the mix  
here. I don't see that we've got that healthy a moose  
population, based on my personal experience this fall, I don't  
have any moose meat in my freezer yet, and the same thing has  
been true with a lot of the people that I know up in my area.  
So I could not support the inclusion of moose just carte blanche  
on this particular proposal. I don't have any problem with the  
caribou and -- there are no deer where I live, so I don't have  
any knowledge about that.

23

24 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yes, Ralph.

27

28 MR. LOHSE: Maybe we could address that from the  
standpoint that this only applies to animal populations that  
biologically can sustain the harvest.

31

32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Would you say that again?

33

34 MR. LOHSE: Maybe we could state that this, you know,  
can only apply to -- and it only does. That's one thing we've  
got to remember, even with the designated hunter application or  
anything else, all of the game decisions have to be made on the  
basis of sustained yield. I mean it does not mean that because  
you've made a designated hunter designation or any other  
designation that animals can be harvested past the sustained  
yield point. And from that standpoint if we need to add it we  
could add that, you know, moose, caribou and deer, if they  
biologically can sustain the harvest, I mean we could add  
something like that. But the idea is that there are a limited  
amount of these animals to be taken, and they're biologically  
managed from the standpoint of only having a limited amount  
taken.

48

49 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

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1  
2 MR. BASNER: Yeah, .....

3  
4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thanks for the explanation. I thought  
5 that's what you -- when you were making a recommendation, not a  
6 motion, I think you more or less stated it that way.

7  
8 MR. BASNER: Well, to carry that argument a little  
9 further then, why bother to designate any species at all? If  
10 we're managing them based on a sustained yield basis. We don't  
11 need to include or exclude any particular species. I mean you  
12 can leave goats in there and anything else you want to.

13  
14 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman. In answer to that I think  
15 that we were trying to look at animals that basically are --  
16 that actually do provide a fair amount of subsistence food and  
17 that also eliminate some of the temptation for fraud, and when  
18 we start dealing with sheep, goats and brown bear, which in a  
19 lot of people's minds are trophy animals, while they're still  
20 used for food and everything else, the invitation for fraud is a  
21 lot stronger. They also don't contribute -- and just from the  
22 records that we've been looking at, you know, the Upper Tanana  
23 and the other places, they don't contribute a lot of pounds to  
24 the subsistence take of protein, where moose and deer and  
25 caribou are basically the mainstays. And that, to me, would be  
26 the idea behind why you would eliminate some of your -- you're  
27 eliminating them because you recognize human nature, for one  
28 thing, and you're also eliminating them because they are a small  
29 part of the subsistence take.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah. I'd like to ask a question of  
32 John Morrison at this point. Does the state have this  
33 designated hunter for all species?

34  
35 MR. MORRISON: Ralph hit the nail on the head when he  
36 mentioned that the three species that are presently designated  
37 in state regulations are those species that are customarily and  
38 most commonly taken as food on a subsistence basis. Furbearers  
39 and bears and things like that are not included because they're  
40 not considered all that important as a food source, and that's  
41 what the state regulation was aimed at, not to provide somebody  
42 a chance to get furs to sell or what-have-you, but to put meat  
43 on the table of people that really needed it.

44  
45 And in answer to Mr. Basner's comment about the moose.  
46 There are some places in the state where moose are about the  
47 only subsistence species available to local folks. And a very  
48 part of the total state has deer in it, and of course caribou  
49 are moving around a lot and there are times and places where  
50

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moose might be the only specie available.

2

3           So I think that the -- from the state point of view we  
4 would prefer to keep it on those three species, at the same time  
5 allow enough flexibility over the state that people can take  
6 advantage of whatever is most available to them.

7

8           CHAIRMAN EWAN:     Okay.     Not hearing any proposed  
9 amendments or anything is there any further discussion on the  
10 motion? Are we ready to vote on the motion?

11

12           MR. BASNER:    Would you restate the motion?

13

14           CHAIRMAN EWAN:   Ralph.

15

16           MR. LOHSE:    I'm sure it's .....

17

18           CHAIRMAN EWAN:   Okay, Helga has it here.

19

20           MS. EAKON:    Let me see if I captured it.   Ralph Lohse  
21 moved that the council support the idea of a designated hunter  
22 option with the idea of some streamlining the state program and  
23 possibly applying the concept to villages on applying the  
24 concept only to moose, caribou and deer, and Ben Romig seconded  
25 the motion.

26

27           CHAIRMAN EWAN:   Ralph.

28

29           MR. LOHSE:    Mr. Chair, there was one section in there  
30 that was not in accordance with my motion. I know where she got  
31 it. Basically possibly expanding it to others with needs in  
32 communities and villages. It wasn't just to villages but to  
33 others with needs, communities and villages -- to others with  
34 needs in communities and villages. In other words, what I'm  
35 saying so that it doesn't have to be strictly 65 blind and  
36 disabled, that we recognize that there are other people in our  
37 communities that also have needs that we can come up with some  
38 kind of definition.

39

40           Now, again, this is not a proposal to the Fish & Game,  
41 it's not a proposal -- this is not a proposal saying that that  
42 would be our idea to support something along that lines. To  
43 define those needs is going to have to be done at some point in  
44 time.

45

46           CHAIRMAN EWAN:   Did we cover sustained yield, the part  
47 that you talked about?

48

49           MR. LOHSE:    The moose, caribou and deer on a sustained

50

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yield basis? I didn't have that in the original motion.

2

3 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

4

5 MR. BASNER: Mr. Chairman, I support the motion all the way up to the point about these other needs. To me that just opens up a bucket of worms that I don't think we need to get into at this point. It may raise its head on its own later on, but if I have to vote right now I'm going to have to vote no, just based on that. If the motion were reworded in such a way that we don't try to attempt to introduce social welfare into the animal take in Alaska, I can certainly support it, but I can see -- this thing can run off in the wrong direction, the direction that I don't think Ralph intends it to go. I think I know where you're coming from, Ralph, and I don't fault that and I don't argue with you for it, but I can see the potential for this thing blossoming off into another social program. When you say, well, somebody needs it how do you define the word "needs"? And based on that, I cannot support it. Other than that, I do take it.

21

22 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other comments? The motion is kind of general; it doesn't get specific about the -- as I understand it it says look at other needs, the possibility of expanding it. Isn't that how it was stated?

26

27 MR. LOHSE: That was the general idea. The idea was that -- and that was something that was brought out. If you read this report that was something that was brought out by the people in the working group, that in village and community situations those needs aren't just limited to elders and the blind and the disabled; that traditionally they went out to people who had -- people who were part of the community who were part of the village tribe, community, whatever you want to call it, that had need in the community. And I could see that since this is a subsistence program aimed at a specific -- like it was pointed out by Taylor, a specific type of program that we could recognize what the traditional traditions are in communities and villages, that they didn't just do it for the elder, they did it for the other people in the community that had needs. Now those needs are going to have to be defined. We haven't defined those needs.

43

I brought up an example that I thought would possibly be applicable. I don't envision this as a welfare program; I envision this as a fact that people in communities and villages should have the opportunity to help each other, and I'd be willing to make the motion without the expanded part of it, and if the motion doesn't fail I'll remake the motion -- and if the motion fails, I'll remake the motion without the expanded part.

50

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1 But I can see some streamlining and some expansion needed to  
 2 meet the needs of communities and villages across the state of  
 3 Alaska.

4  
 5 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other comments? Are we ready to  
 6 vote on the motion? All right. All in favor of the motion, say  
 7 aye.

8  
 9 IN UNISON: Aye.

10  
 11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I'll vote aye. Opposed by the same  
 12 sign.

13  
 14 MR. BASNER: Aye.

15  
 16 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, there's three to one; the motion  
 17 passes. Okay, the next one, .....

18  
 19 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman, I would think for Lee's sake  
 20 that he should have an opportunity to put into the record what  
 21 his opposition to the motion was.

22  
 23 MR. BASNER: I thought I did, but I'll tell you again.

24  
 25

26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Just to make sure it's in the record,  
 27 yeah.

28  
 29 MR. BASNER: Yeah, in general I supported the motion  
 30 based on the customary and traditional use of the villagers,  
 31 particularly in the Native population. The reason that I voted  
 32 against the motion was that the expanded use of designated  
 33 hunter to include what I interpret to be a social welfare  
 34 program based on Alaska natural resources and I am opposed to  
 35 that sort of thing. That was my interpretation of the motion,  
 36 therefore I voted against it.

37  
 38 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Thank you, Lee. The next  
 39 item .....

40  
 41 MR. WILLIS: Mr. Chairman, Roy, excuse me. I had my  
 42 hand up waving it a minute ago.

43  
 44 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I'm sorry.

45  
 46 MR. WILLIS: I have some more information that I wanted  
 47 to pass on to the council for your consideration between now and  
 48 the winter meetings concerning the designated hunter proposals  
 49 that were put forward by the other councils.

50

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1  
2 The Southeast Council had proposals last year and the  
Kodiak/Aleutians Council had one proposal for designated hunter,  
4 so they spent quite a bit of time working on these issues, and  
5 the Southeast proposals dealt with all wildlife; any rural  
6 resident could take any wildlife life species or any other rural  
7 resident. Their feeling was that this -- they were dealing  
8 chiefly with deer, but they were trying to make the point that  
9 they consider all wildlife to be a subsistence species, that a  
10 subsistence user uses whatever is available, and therefore any  
11 regulation should be for all wildlife. And they were also  
12 interested in legalizing what goes on now, to a very large  
13 extent, which is people harvesting deer, maybe 25 or 30 deer to  
14 feed an entire community.

15  
16 The Kodiak/Aleutians Council on the other hand was very  
17 specific. In their proposal they wanted to limit it to deer and  
18 don't have a copy of it with me, but it says in essence that  
19 any rural resident who has a federal permit and a valid state  
20 hunting license can harvest deer for any other rural resident  
21 who also has a valid state hunting license. And that proposal  
22 was passed by them at their meeting two days ago and will be  
23 submitted to the council, so I know you'll be seeing that one.

24  
25 I don't know what's going to come out of Southeast  
26 because they're meeting right now while we are. They will  
27 undoubtedly have a proposal also. So I wanted to provide you  
28 with that background, and I also have -- I got a charge from  
29 Dick Marshall back in the summer to develop a -- or streamline a  
30 permitting procedure for designated hunters just with the idea  
31 in mind that we were going to have some proposals and we should  
32 be ready with something to -- if those proposals were accepted  
33 by the board.

34  
35 We have a federal permit, kind of a generic federal  
36 permit. And I have only one copy of this. I'm going to hold  
37 it up. This happens to be a bear hunting permit. The  
38 left-hand side, your right-hand side, this strip right here is  
39 torn off and retained by the person in the field, and that's all  
40 he has to carry with him. And the top part is filled out and  
41 retained at the office where he goes to get the permit. The  
42 bottom part here is just a hunt report which is sent in at the  
43 end of the season and it says basically who he harvested for and  
44 how many animal -- how many deer he harvested and how many were  
45 bucks and does. This is an informational thing for us. The  
46 person who is the beneficiary does not have to go in if he is  
47 blind, disabled or whatever, does not have to go in and prove  
48 that he is in this condition, and the person who will be doing  
49 the hunting for them can come in with that person's hunting  
50

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license. They do have to have a state hunting license and all the valid state tags in order to use this. And the person who is doing the hunting would have to have their hunting license and deer tags in his possession, along with this little strip here off the federal permit when he's in the field.

6

7 This is something that I came up with, it hasn't been blessed by the Federal Subsistence Board or even by the Fish & Wildlife Service, so keep that in mind. Dick has seen it and our staff thinks it will work fine, and the Kodiak Refuge staff thinks it will work fine. And I have copies that I will pass around to you, and as I said, it's limited to deer only, and it's very specific on the permit and what the person has to have, and you can look at that, along with this report that you've been provided, between now and the winter meetings, and we'll give you a little bit more information maybe and a little bit better idea of how you want to vote when these other proposals come forward, and possibly how you would want to submit a proposal of your own. Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you. The next item is the Various Management Options that were proposed. My understanding is that we shouldn't be considering the first two options now, correct, and go to number three. So we'll go to Community Harvest Option. And I'll open it up for discussion. Council members.

27

28 For the council members information, in my particular area I have not heard too much comment about this option. So I don't know, I'm not strongly in favor or opposed, one way or the other, I'm just -- I'd like to hear what you council members think about this option here. Lee.

33

34 MR. BASNER: Well, I'll start it off by saying I, as usual, share a concern for the resource involved here, and I can see where this could have quite an impact on the resource. If you've got a group of young men, primarily in physically good shape, and the community designates them to go out and harvest the meat for the entire community, that can have a much greater impact on the resource. I'm sure it's good for the community in the short-term, but in the long-term perhaps it's not because the resource is going to decline more rapidly, probably or possibly. And therefore I have some reservations about this. I think the designated hunter system probably is a little bit easier on the resource. Again, I'd have to defer to a biologist for some expert advice on that. But my concern here is this is a small group of excellent hunters or people who like to do the killing, going out and harvesting for the community and taking too many animals.

50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph. Ralph, maybe John has something  
3 that will help us. John, did you have .....

4  
5 MR. MORRISON: I just wanted to observe in that light  
6 that in the case that there should become an over-harvest due to  
7 this kind of a program, either designated hunter or community  
8 harvest, both the State Board of Game as well as the Federal  
9 Subsistence Board has the prerogative of either an emergency  
10 closure to hunting season or cutting back on the season length  
11 or bag limits or whatever. But the downside of that is that the  
12 majority of the public is going to be out of an opportunity to  
13 hunt simply because of the actions of a relatively few people  
14 who are abusing this system. So those are kind of two sides of  
15 the coin that should be looked at in this context.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, Ralph.

18  
19 MR. LOHSE: Speaking, you know, basically from the area  
20 that I come from, and I wish Gary Kompkoff was here, I have the  
21 feeling that to a certain extent a little bit of this designated  
22 hunter or community thing is already being done in the villages  
23 at Chenega and Tatitlek, and I would imagine that in those  
24 situations because there is basically close government, a  
25 smaller amount of people and everything else, it actually could  
26 be a possibility in those communities. The only problem that I  
27 would see with it is the fact that they deal with the resource  
28 area that's shared by other communities, too. One of the  
29 problems that we -- that when you read the report that you found  
30 that it worked so -- it probably would work okay with the  
31 community that had a resource area that had had all to itself,  
32 but when two communities shared the same resource area it's  
33 pretty hard for one community to govern how they take that  
34 resource.

35  
36 As far as in the community I live, Cordova, because of  
37 its multi-racial background and because of the differences in  
38 people that are there, it wouldn't work as a community operation  
39 out of Cordova. Again, it also deals with the fact that it's a  
40 community of a larger size. And when you get into a larger size  
41 you have more problems because you have more individuals. I  
42 actually don't think the community idea would work too good in  
43 Prince William Sound simply because of the fact that we have  
44 many communities sharing the same resource, and from that  
45 standpoint I would think the designated hunter option would be a  
46 much, much better option.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other comment? What we could do is  
49 just have no recommendation on this if you want to leave it that  
50

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Way, or do you want a recommendation?

2

3 MR. LOHSE: I feel like we've made a recommendation,  
4 Roy. We've basically said that, you know, our preference, D.,  
5 the designated hunter option, and that is stating a preference.

6

7 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. If you say so. Is that  
8 correct, where the Community Harvest Option and the Designated  
9 Hunter Option are the -- they work together here?

10

11 MR. BRELSFORD: I think our understanding was that you  
12 might take the ideas and the concepts and generate specific  
13 proposals or as you have all discussed, maybe individual  
14 communities or other people may put proposals before you in  
15 February that would build on a designated hunter -- implementing  
16 a designated hunter program or -- you know, there may be  
17 villages in parts of the state that will propose community  
18 harvest limits.

19 So you've done exactly what we've asked, to kind of  
20 follow along with us in the ideas that are here, give us some  
21 idea of what works and doesn't work or what might work and might  
22 be really inappropriate in the specific circumstances of  
23 Southcentral Alaska, and I think you've made many comments along  
24 those lines. So I guess I think Ralph is about right, that  
25 you've expressed some support, some reservations, you've  
26 expressed a preference for what you see is the most appropriate  
27 approach. I don't think you have to, you know, say negative  
28 things about other options. I think you've made kind of a  
29 positive approach -- you've stated the positive approach that  
30 you believe is most appropriate for this region.

31

32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. It's open for any further  
33 comments. Anybody want to make comments on the Community  
34 Harvest Option? Like I say, in my area I have not heard this  
35 option discussed. Maybe there has been some discussion that I'm  
36 not aware of, but I don't feel strongly one way or the other  
37 about this option.

38

39 Should we just move on? Okay. Okay, we're down to the  
40 Annual Report. Helga wanted to discuss the Annual Report again.  
41 We talked about that a little bit yesterday. So the next item  
42 will be the Annual Report. I think Helga wants something --  
43 some direction from the council. Helga.

44

45 MS. EAKON: Yes. The council did discuss the Annual  
46 Report, but my preference would be to have a motion passed by  
47 the council saying that I don't have to help you with one,  
48 because this is a touchy topic amongst the coordinators, and I  
49 just would feel more comfortable.

50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph or Lee.  
3  
4 MR. BASNER: I move that this council not compile an  
5 annual report for 1994.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Is there a second to this motion?  
8  
9 MR. LOHSE: I would second it. I would like to -- with  
10 the motion maker's consent, add to it, unless specifically  
11 requested for a specific purpose. In other words, if they  
12 wanted an annual report and they have something that they want  
13 in it, they can ask us for it.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Is that acceptable to the motion maker?  
16  
17 MR. BASNER: Okay.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right, that's acceptable. The  
20 motion has been seconded. Is there any further discussion on  
21 the motion? If not, all in favor, say aye.  
22  
23 IN UNISON: Aye.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Opposed by the same sign. (No opposing  
26 responses) The motion is carried. The next item is item 9.  
27 Administrative Matters. Did we .....  
28  
29 MS. EAKON: Mr. Chair, we have already taken care of  
30 the travel receipts this morning.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Oh, this is what it was, right?  
33  
34 MS. EAKON: Yes.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, the next one is Establish Time  
37 and Place of the Next Meeting. Do we have any meeting date in  
38 mind now?  
39  
40 MS. EAKON: Well, we're kind of -- Mr. Chair, we're  
41 kind of driven by the Kenai C & T schedule right now, which  
42 would put us at February 27 and 28 and March 1, 1994, in  
43 Anchorage. We're going to have a rather big plate because not  
44 only will the council consider and make recommendations on  
45 proposals to change Subpart D regulations but I rather  
46 anticipate that there's going to be public comment on the Kenai  
47 C & T recommendations of the council, and Janis Meldrum has a  
48 little bit to add on this time and place of next meeting,  
49 Mr. Chair.  
50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay.

3  
4 MS. MELDRUM: In addition to the Kenai C & T  
5 recommendations before this council, by the end of February  
6 there should be final recommendations for the Upper Tanana area,  
7 too, which I'd like to give you an opportunity to take a look  
8 at. So it will be a fairly full agenda. And one of the reasons  
9 why we want to put that meeting off, if it will work out for the  
10 council members, to the end of February is because right now the  
11 public comment period on Upper Tanana isn't scheduled to close  
12 until the 17th of February, and we'll have to wait about five  
13 days after that to make sure all the comments are in. So that  
14 was the reason for trying to select those dates.

15  
16 And one thing I just wanted to clarify while I'm  
17 standing up here, if I might. Was there a decision made by the  
18 council to try and see if Fred John could participate in the  
19 Eastern Interior meeting on the 20th of October?

20  
21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I don't think we made a motion or  
22 anything. I don't think we have any objection, do we?

23  
24 MR. LOHSE: I was under the understanding we were going  
25 to ask him to. I mean I know we weren't going to direct him to,  
26 but it was my impression that we were going to, you know, as a  
27 council ask him if he could do it.

28  
29 Can I ask you a question, Janis?

30  
31 MS. MELDRUM: Sure.

32  
33 MR. LOHSE: Now on that February meeting are we going  
34 to be taking action then on the Upper Tanana C & T, is it at  
35 that time that we'll sit down and do what we did with the Kenai  
36 C & T last February, I think it was, or something like that.

37  
38 MS. MELDRUM: Yes, that will be the last opportunity to  
39 discuss it and then make a recommendation to the Federal Board  
40 before they make a final decision. So that will be a critical  
41 point in this whole process, where you sit down and spend some  
42 time with the Federal Register document and then provide your  
43 recommendation.

44  
45 MR. LOHSE: Did I misstep or something, did we ever go  
46 over the Upper Tanana C & T in the same way that we went over  
47 the Kenai C & T, where we as a board went over it individually,  
48 community by community and made recommendations on it, or do we  
49 do that after the public comment period?

50

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1  
2 MS. MELDRUM: Well, I didn't attend that meeting last  
3 January, but what I understand that Taylor did with you then was  
4 to go through the Kenai staff recommendations community by  
5 community and option by option. I did not do that with you  
6 today or yesterday, not in the same way that Taylor did.  
7 Instead I tried to provide that example to give you an idea of  
8 what -- how these conclusions were put together and what that  
9 might mean for other areas, but we approached it in a different  
10 way, but we were trying to give you the opportunity to provide  
11 review comments at this point.

12  
13 MR. LOHSE: Okay. Thank you.

14  
15 MS. MELDRUM: If you have some suggestions on how you  
16 would like to have this handled in the future, since you've now  
17 seen two different ways of approaching it, it would be helpful  
18 for us as staff members to hear that. Myself particularly, if  
19 you want these things conducted in a certain way so that we can  
20 plan in the future to set them up in that way.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

23  
24 MR. BASNER: Okay, yeah, based on that I feel the work  
25 we did in January and February, whenever it was, was the  
26 appropriate way to go about it for the Kenai Peninsula because  
27 that was the heart of our area, and we had people who were  
28 intimately involved and had lots of background knowledge in that  
29 area. Whereas in this case I also think you've gone about it in  
30 an appropriate way because this is peripherally located to our  
31 area, and not many of us are real familiar or impacted by any  
32 decisions made up in that northeastern corner. So I think both  
33 cases were the appropriate way to approach this. I don't know  
34 if that gives you any guidance or not.

35  
36 MS. MELDRUM: Yeah, that does help.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Thank you. The next item  
39 will be Public Comment. I believe we provided an opportunity  
40 last night for the public to comment to make comment or  
41 proposals. Is there anybody that wants to make a comment? If  
42 not we'll move on to the next item. That's Council, Staff,  
43 Agency Comment. Anybody want to make any general comments?  
44

45  
46 MR. BASNER: I have a question, Roy. Were you able to  
47 get a hold of Gary?

48  
49 CHAIRMAN EWAN: No. I am guilty of leaving that stuff  
50

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here. I should have took the number. I could have done that last night, but I -- I tried to call information and I couldn't get this home phone number, so I didn't call Gary. Any comments? If not we'll move down to the .....

5

6 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman. Maybe then what we need to do is between now and the next meeting contact Gary and find out whether or not he's going to have the ability to participate, and if not make arrangements to try and start finding a replacement if he's -- you know, if it's going to be beyond his capabilities to put the time in.

12

13 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. We'll be working on it. I promised you and I'm sorry that I didn't contact him last night. I will try to get a hold of him as soon as possible and contact Helga, and maybe inform me some way by letter or something.

17

18 MR. BASNER: You know, in case Gary has decided that his duties don't permit him to continue, would the -- what's the most appropriate way to proceed? Request that he submit a letter of resignation; would that be the best way to handle it? Okay.

23

24 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other comment? If not, we're down to our last item, Adjournment.

26

27 MR. BASNER: I move to adjourn.

28

29 CHAIRMAN EWAN: There's a motion to adjourn. Is there a second? Motion seconded. All in favor, say aye.

31

32 IN UNISON: Aye.

33

34 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Opposed by same sign? (No opposing responses) Meeting is adjourned. Thank you all.

36

37 (Off record)

38

39 \* \* \* \* \*

40 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

41 \* \* \* \* \*

42

43

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4 ) ss.  
5 STATE OF ALASKA )  
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7  
8 I, Laurel L. Kehler-Evenson, Notary Public in and for  
9  
10 the State of Alaska, residing at Anchorage, Alaska, and Reporter  
11  
12 for R & R Court Reporters, Inc., do hereby certify:

13  
14 THAT the annexed and foregoing is a Transcript of the  
15  
16 Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
17  
18 Meeting, Volume II, taken on the 7th day of October 1994,  
19  
20 commencing at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m., at the Kenai  
21  
22 Peninsula Borough Assembly Chambers at Soldotna, Alaska;

23  
24 THAT this Transcript, as heretofore annexed, is a true  
25  
26 and correct transcription of the proceedings, recorded by me and  
27  
28 thereafter transcribed by me.

29  
30 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and  
31  
32 affixed my seal this 20th day of October 1994.  
33

34  
35  
36 Notary in and for Alaska  
37 My commission expires: 10/20/94  
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R & R COURT REPORTERS

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